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(IT). ARMELLIN, Alberto. (IT/IT): Via Soffratta 9,
I-31029 VITTORIO VENETO (IT).

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(74) Agent: GERVASI, Gemma; NOTARBARTOLO & GER-
VASI S.p.A., Corso di Porta Vittoria 9, I-20122 MILAN
(IT).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): S.I.P.A.
SOCIETÀ INDUSTRIALIZZAZIONE PROGET-
TAZIONE E AUTOMAZIONE S.P.A. (IT/IT); Via
Caduti del Lavoro 3, I-31029 VITTORIO VENETO (IT).

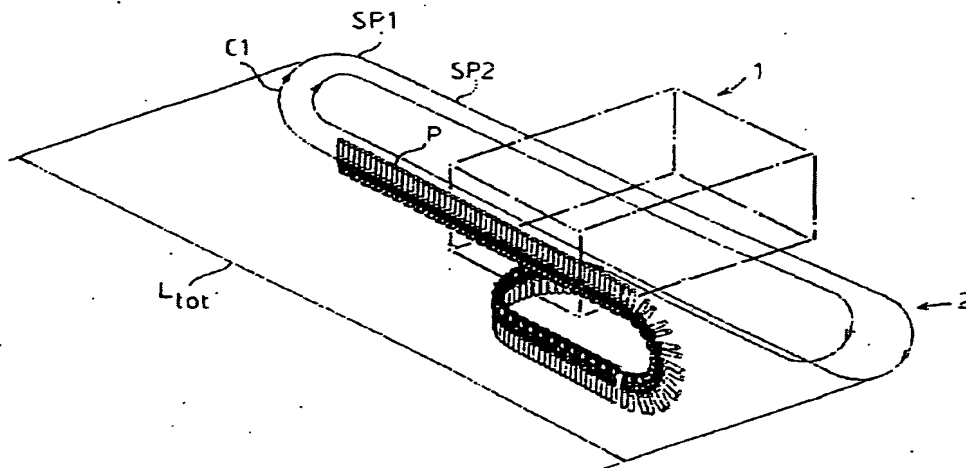
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(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ZOPPAS, Matteo
(IT/IT); Via S. Pellico, 46, I-33074 FONTANA FREDDA

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(54) Title: PLANT AND METHOD FOR THERMALLY CONDITIONING PLASTIC ITEMS



(57) Abstract: The method for thermally conditioning preforms in accordance with the invention comprises the following steps: - Placing the preforms on a chain conveyor (2); - Conveying the preforms through a first thermal conditioning stage (1) and subjecting them to a first heating or cooling heat exchange; - Removing the preforms from the first thermal conditioning stage and holding them outside for a predetermined amount of time in order to redistribute the temperature inside the preforms; - Subjecting the preforms to at least a second heating or cooling heat exchange in a second thermal conditioning stage (1) or in the first thermal conditioning stage. The invention also concerns the plants for heating or cooling preforms in accordance with the above method.

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